Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing content sent by a content distributor to a user location, the method comprising:

receiving a command from the content distributor to store the content at the user location before a user specifically requests the content, wherein the content comprises a subset of ~~content~~ a plurality of linearly scheduled programs, each of the plurality of linearly scheduled programs available from the content distributor on a plurality of different distribution channels with staggered start times, wherein the subset is associated with a premium subscription service, and wherein the content comprises at least one of a video program or an audio program;

processing the command sent from a remote location with respect to the user location;

receiving the content at the user location on at least one of the plurality of distribution channels;

storing a segment of the content at the user location in response to at least the processing the command, wherein a length of the segment is based on a time between a start time of the content on a first distribution channel and a start time of the content on a second distribution channel; and

detecting a user action related to the content after storage of the content.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the content comprises at least one of a commercial, an infomercial, a show, or a movie.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the user location comprises a set top box.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the storing the content comprises storing the content on a mass storage device associated with a set top box that is associated with the user location.

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the processing the command comprises determining usage rules related to the content.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing content sent by a content distributor to a user location, the method comprising:
        determining a subset of content from a ~~larger set of content~~ plurality of linearly available programs, each of the plurality of linearly available programs available from the content distributor on a plurality of different distribution channels with staggered start times, wherein the subset of content is associated with a premium subscription service and comprises at least one of a video program and an audio program;
        commanding the user location to store a segment of the subset of content from the content distributor without a user associated with the user location specifically requesting the subset of content, wherein:

a length of the segment of the subset of the content is based on a time between a start time of the subset of the content on a first distribution channel and a start time of the subset of the content on a second distribution channel;

the subset of content is stored proximate to the user location, and

the content distributor is remotely-located from the user location; and

sending the subset of content to the user location for storage before a user specifically requests the subset of content, ~~wherein the subset of content comprises at least one of a video program or an audio program~~.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising determining usage rules for the subset of content.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising sending usage rules for the subset of content to the user location.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, wherein the subset of content is unmentioned in a linear schedule.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising broadcasting the subset of content to a plurality of user locations.

14.   (Currently Amended) A ~~distribution program product for distributing~~ a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a series of instructions which, when executed

by a processor, causes the processor to distribute content sent by a content distributor to a user

location~~, the distribution program product comprising~~ by:

~~code for~~ receiving a command from the content distributor to store the content at

the user location before a user specifically requests the content, wherein the content comprises a

subset of ~~content~~ a plurality of linearly scheduled programs, each of the plurality of linearly

scheduled programs available from the content distributor on a plurality of different distribution

channels with staggered start times, wherein the subset is associated with a premium subscription

service, and wherein the content comprises at least one of a video program or an audio program;

~~code for~~ processing the command sent from a remote location with respect to the

user location;

~~code for~~ receiving the content at the user location on at least one of the plurality

of distribution channels;

~~code for~~ storing a segment of the content at the user location in response to at

least the processing the command, wherein a length of the segment is based on a time between a

start time of the content on a first distribution channel and a start time of the content on a second

distribution channel; and

~~code for~~ detecting a user request for the content after storage of the content~~; and~~

~~a computer-readable medium for storing the codes~~.

15.   (Currently Amended) The ~~distribution program product for distributing~~

~~the content sent by the content distributor to the user location~~ machine-readable medium as

recited in claim 14, wherein the content comprises at least one of a commercial, an infomercial, a

reoccurring show, or a movie.

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Currently Amended) The ~~distribution program product for distributing~~

~~the content sent by the content distributor to the user location~~ machine-readable medium as

recited in claim 14, wherein the user location comprises a set top box.

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18.   (Currently Amended) The ~~distribution program product for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location~~ <u>machine-readable medium</u> as recited in claim 14, wherein ~~the code for~~ storing the content comprises ~~code for~~ storing the content on a mass storage device associated with a set top box that is associated with the user location.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Currently Amended) The ~~distribution program product for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location~~ <u>machine-readable medium</u> as recited in claim 14, wherein ~~the code for~~ processing the command comprises ~~code for~~ determining usage rules related to the content.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the content distributor sends the content from a remote point with respect to the user location.

22.   (Previously Presented) The method for distributing the content sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein:
        the content is broadcast to a plurality of user locations,
        the broadcast is coextensive-in-time for the plurality of user locations, and
        the user location is part of the plurality of user locations.

23.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user location comprises a residence of the user.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the user location comprises a residence of the user.